

Shincliffe Parish Council

Minutes of the Remote Meeting of Shincliffe Parish Council held online on Thursday 24th September, 2020 at 6.00pm

Present: County Councillor Stoker (Chair) Councillors Armstrong, Ferries, Fradgley, Olechnowicz and Wright.

In Attendance: Stuart Forster, Linda Fairlamb and Christine Everatt

Everyone introduced themselves to the meeting.

Item		Action By
1.	<p>Apologies for Absence</p> <p>An apology for absence was submitted to the meeting of behalf of Councillor Duell.</p>	
2.	<p>Declarations of Interest</p> <p>There were no declarations of interest.</p>	
3.	<p>Issues Raised by Members of the Public</p> <p>All correspondence received had been previously circulated to Councillors.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="379 1294 727 1330">• Shincliffe Play Park <p>A resident congratulated team in the successful fundraising for the Play Park, however raised her concerns regarding the problems which she had personally being experiencing.</p> <p>The resident explained that there had been increased congestion to the roads within Shincliffe Village within the last 3 months, and also problems with parking and dangerous and inconsiderate driving, particularly near to Low Green.</p> <p>In addition to this, the resident commented that she had sustained a level of unreasonable noise and anti-social behaviour.</p> <p>From the residents' observations and discussions, she believed that the main problem was overcrowding in the park and suggested that the Parish Council needed to look at ways of reducing its capacity by way of removing the amount of</p>	

	<p>equipment, and re-installing some equipment at High Shincliffe Park.</p> <p>The resident also suggested that a survey be undertaken to ascertain how many users of the park, belonged to the Parish of Shincliffe.</p> <p>An additional resident commented that the road had been destroyed and required remedial works, and in addition to this, expressed concerns that the field would now be built on.</p> <p>The Chair thanked the residents for their comments and observations, and advised that the issue of parking would be considered at the next meeting of the Parish Council.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Destruction of Wildflower Bed/Hedge Cutting/Parking Low Green <p>An email had been received from a resident regarding the destruction of the Wildflower Bed/Hedge Cutting in Low Green.</p> <p>The resident advised that DCC had apologised and agreed to provide compensation in relation to the Wildflower Bed.</p> <p>The Chair advised that a search was to be undertaken by DCC regarding ownership.</p> <p>It was possible that the hedge was to be maintained by DCC and that the Wildflower Bed was the ownership of the residents. A further update would be given in due course.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bench St. Mary's Close <p>A resident had reported that the bench in St. Mary's Close had been damaged.</p> <p>An inspection had been undertaken by the Parish Gardener and a replacement had been ordered.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fallen Tree – High Shincliffe <p>A resident had reported that a large tree branch (almost blocking the path) was found near the steps from Hill Meadows and the houses at the Bracken.</p> <p>The Clerk reported that this had been reported to DCC and that the pathway was cleared.</p>	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Behaviour of Some Children – High Shincliffe Park <p>A resident reported that children were swinging large sticks and branches in the play park and encouraging inappropriate behaviour by other children.</p> <p>The Headteacher of the school had therefore agreed to submit something in the school newsletter.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lower Green St. Mary’s Close <p>A resident had asked whether the Parish Council could take action on the Lower Green (Shincliffe Village) and its vegetation, and questioned maintenance of the area, and who was responsible for it.</p> <p>The resident was advised that the remit of the Parish Council only extended to managing the bench and that DCC as grace and favour, had historically tidied up the area. The issue of ownership, was still largely unknown.</p> <p>It was noted that in the past, residents had kind fully maintained and managed this area, however if this was no longer possible, a polite request could be made to DCC requesting some assistance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advertising (Near the Rose Tree Inn) <p>A resident had reported that someone had parked a trailer with a large advertising box for BLUE BOX STORAGE at the end of the road near the Rose Tree, where the petrol station used to be.</p> <p>The Chair reported that DCC had no right to remove this, however the Dean and Chapter possibly could. Incidentally, the following day, the trailer had been removed, however it was acknowledged that this issue could re-occur in the future.</p>	
4.	<p>Minutes</p> <p>RESOLVED that: the minutes of the meeting held on 23rd July, 2020 be approved as a correct record.</p>	
5.	<p>Matters Arising (Including Actions from the Last Meeting)</p> <p>Item 15 – Motorhome (near Foxton Way) – This was no longer deemed to be an issue.</p>	
6.	<p>Written Correspondence</p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partnership Approach at the Heart of Economic Recovery Strategy • 19th Century Water Fountain Given New Lease of Life Through Heritage Action Zone • Council Leaders Call for Culture Rescue Funding to be Allocated Locally • Meals, Activity Packs and Social Support Delivered to Households in Need • Frosterley Household Waste Recycling Centre to Reopen • County Durham Welcomes Investment for Northern Rail Upgrades • Thousands to be Repaid to Council Following Tax Fraud • Update on Council Services (24 July 2020) • Improving Walking and Cycling Provision in Durham City • Citizen's Advice Survey • Providing a Helping Hand to County Durham Families During School Holidays • Grants Available to Support Independent Living • First Steps into Co. Durham Care Roles • Popular Historic House Re-opens Thanks to AAP Grant • Update on Council Services (31 July 2020) • Six County Durham Swimming Pools to Reopen • Small Business Becomes Support Service for Those Isolating During Coronavirus Outbreak • Entries Open for 31st Environment Awards • Update on Council Services (7 August 2020) • Rallying Villages Through the Pandemic • Planning Permission Approved for New Durham Bus Station • Pair Fined After Counterfeit Cigarettes Found in Home • Update on Council Services (14th August 2020) • Man Caught on Camera Fly-Tipping Twice in a Week • Club Customers Asked to Self-Isolate Following Covid-19 Cases in Stanley • People of Stanley Thanked for Helping to Reduce Spread of Coronavirus • Autumn 2020 Warm Homes Newsletter • Reminder to Record Customers' Details in Hospitality Venues • Welfare Assistance Scheme Extended in Co. Durham • 19 Stakeholder Briefing • Investing £500,000 in 11 New Neighbourhood Wardens 	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Celebrating Five Years of Train Building in Co. Durham • Proposals to Improve Housing in Co. Durham • Vision for County Durham Remains a Priority • Adult Learners Recognised for their Hard Work in Making a Difference • Views Sought on Proposed Changes to Taxi Policy • Explore Durham's Vast History with Countywide Heritage Event • Grandmother to Pay Nearly £1,000 for Blue Badge Misuse • Update on Council Services (11 September 2020) • Three-Quarters of Libraries in Co. Durham to Reopen for Browsing • Chief Executive of Leading Council Announces Retirement • Update on Council Services (18 September 2020) • North East Calls for Local Restrictions Change on Childcare <p>RESOLVED that: the correspondence had been received and noted.</p>										
7.	<p>Planning Applications</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 20%;">DM/20/01935/FP A</td> <td style="width: 40%;">Beech Cottage 4 Beech View Sherburn House Durham DH1 2SF</td> <td style="width: 40%;">Freestanding gazebo to rear</td> </tr> <tr> <td>DM/20/02211/FP A</td> <td>St Marys Church Hall High Street North Shincliffe Durham DH1 2NJ</td> <td>Installation of canopy.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>DM/20/01714/FP A</td> <td>25 Langton Lea High Shincliffe Durham DH1 2QF</td> <td>Single storey front, two storey side and single storey rear extensions</td> </tr> </table> <p>RESOLVED that: there were no objections in relation to the above planning applications.</p>	DM/20/01935/FP A	Beech Cottage 4 Beech View Sherburn House Durham DH1 2SF	Freestanding gazebo to rear	DM/20/02211/FP A	St Marys Church Hall High Street North Shincliffe Durham DH1 2NJ	Installation of canopy.	DM/20/01714/FP A	25 Langton Lea High Shincliffe Durham DH1 2QF	Single storey front, two storey side and single storey rear extensions	
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8.	<p>Horticulture Committee Update (Standing Item)</p> <p>Councillor Wright provided the following update:</p>										

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whilst the Horticulture Committee hadn't met since March, an update had been circulated to the Committee; • The winter planting had been ordered, which was expected to be delivered the following month; • 500 whips had also been ordered for the Play Park, with planting expected to take place early next year; • The Christmas Tree initiative would take place once again, with approval having been received from DCC Highways for positioning the of the trees which would be in the same place as last year; and • A licence would be required to plant on verge near Sherburn House. 	
9.	<p>Roadside Planting Sherburn House</p> <p>Councillor Fradgley provided the following update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A licence for planting at Sherburn House would be required; and • It was hoped that this would cover everything, including the planting of Daffodils. 	
10.	<p>Shincliffe Play Park (Standing Item)</p> <p>Councillor Ferries provided the following update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whilst there was initially a problem with litter in the early days, large bins had been installed and a more frequent collection of rubbish had been agreed with DCC, which had hopefully, alleviated the problem; • Signage at entrance of the park had been replaced with ROSPA compliance standards and in addition to this, two semi-permanent COVID signs had also been installed; • A problem had been encountered in relation to a picnic bench which had been attempted to be removed. As a result, the Parish Gardener had now secured all benches; • The Parish Gardener's maintenance programme was working well, in terms of the grass growth and also 'raking up' of the bark under activity spaces; and • DCC were now carrying out routine inspections to identify any issues which may occur in Play Parks. Three minor issues had been identified, which related to timber structures showing minor splits. As a result, an Officer from DCC had been assigned to monitor the situation, 	

	and correspondence had also been sent to manufacturer. It was confirmed that there was no need for immediate work at the present time, as the equipment remained within safety margins.																			
12.	<p>Current Accounts for Approval</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Payable to</th> <th>Amount</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>K Kirton (September)</td> <td>£364.13</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HMRC Income Tax (July)</td> <td>£91.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>K Kirton Reimbursement Zoom (31st August)</td> <td>£14.39</td> </tr> <tr> <td>K Kirton Reimbursement Zoom (30th September)</td> <td>£14.39</td> </tr> <tr> <td>M Platts (Horticulture)</td> <td>£385.70</td> </tr> <tr> <td>M Platts (Horticulture)</td> <td>£199.13</td> </tr> <tr> <td>M Platts (Horticulture)</td> <td>£154.70</td> </tr> <tr> <td>M Platts (Horticulture)</td> <td>£475.07</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>RESOLVED that: the above accounts be paid.</p>	Payable to	Amount	K Kirton (September)	£364.13	HMRC Income Tax (July)	£91.00	K Kirton Reimbursement Zoom (31 st August)	£14.39	K Kirton Reimbursement Zoom (30 th September)	£14.39	M Platts (Horticulture)	£385.70	M Platts (Horticulture)	£199.13	M Platts (Horticulture)	£154.70	M Platts (Horticulture)	£475.07	
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13.	<p>Date of Next Meeting</p> <p>Thursday 22nd October, 2020 at 6.00pm.</p>																			
14.	<p>Any Other Business – Councillors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Councillor Armstrong commented that the Litter Bin near the Seven Stars required replacement. The Chair agreed to speak to DCC regarding this. 	Chair																		

Meeting Terminated at 7.05 pm